DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR **PATENT** APPLICATION

| Attorney Docket No. — | |
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| stated next to my name below) or a joint | med inventor, I hereby declare; that I verily believe that I am inventor (if plural invenTNG METHOD | • | d sole inventor (if or | nly one name is listed |
|--|--|---|---|--|
| | the specification of | of which is attached h | ereto unless the follo | wing box is checked: |
| . [1 | The specification was filed on and was assigned Serial No. | (if known) | · | |
| | and was amended on | (if applicable) | | |
| - | hat I have reviewed and underst by any amendment referred to | tand the contents of th | e above-identified sp | pecification, including |
| I do not know a or our invention thereof thereof, or more than of States of America more subject of an inventor's of America on an application, and that no foreign to the United States of I hereby claim | the duty to disclose information, Code of Federal Regulations and do not believe the same was a compared or described in an ane year prior to this application of the than one year prior to this application of the date of the date of the description of the date of the description | s, § 1.56. s ever known or used if y printed publication in, that the same was plication, that the invite of this application is representatives or assistant or sertificate on the pplication by me or make the sertificate of the publication of the publication of the sertificate of the publication of the sertificate of the publication of the sertificate of the sertificate of the publication of the sertificate | in the United States of in any country before not in public use or rention has not been any country foreigns more than twelve is invention has been by legal representatived. | of America before my e my or our invention on sale in the United patented or made the n to the United States e months prior to this n filed in any country wes or assigns, except |
| Prior Foreign Applica | tion(s) | | <u></u> | Priority Claimed |

| Prior Foreign Application(s) (Number) |) (Country) (Month/Day/Year Filed) | | | Priority Claimed Yes No | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|------------|----------------------------|--|
| 2000-394317 | JAPAN | | 12/26/2000 | X | |
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All foreign applications, if any, for any Patent or Inventor's Certificate filed more than 12 months prior to the filing date of this application:

| Country | Application No. | Date of Filing (Month/Day/Year) |
|---------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
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I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 119(e) or § 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

| Application Serial No. | Filing Date | Status: patented, pending, abandoned |
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| | | |
| | | |

I hereby appoint the following attorneys to prosecute this application and/or any international application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

The undersigned hereby authorize any U.S. attorney or agent named herein to accept and follow instructions Maeda Patent Office ___ as to any action to be taken in the Patent and Trademark Office regarding this application without direct communication between the U.S. attorney or agent and the undersigned. In the event of a change in the persons from whom instructions may be taken, the U.S. attorneys or agents named herein will be so notified by the undersigned.

| FULL NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR Mitsuhiro OKUNI | INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE | DATE Dec. 3, 2001 | | |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|--|--|
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